

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of the claims, and replaces all earlier version and listings.

1. (previously presented): A data processing method for providing data to a client from a server via a network, the method comprising:

an issuing step for issuing a request for data loading from said client to the server in response to an instruction by a user;

a completion discrimination step of the server discriminating, in response to the request for data loading, whether a generation of requested data has completed or is in progress;

a first transmission step of transmitting from the server to said client the requested data if the generation thereof has completed;

a prediction step of the server predicting an end time of the generation of the requested data if the generation thereof is in progress;

a second transmission step of transmitting the predicted end time and information for requesting data loading again at the predicted end time from the server to said client if the generation of the requested data is in progress;

a display step of the client displaying the requested data or the predicted end time received from the server; and

a re-issuing step of, in a case where a received data includes the information for re-issuing the request for data loading at the predicted end time, re-issuing the request

for data loading from said client to the server without a further instruction by the user when the predicted end time is reached.

2. (currently amended): The data processing method according to claim 1, wherein said prediction step ~~predicts~~ includes predicting the end time based on an amount of data to be generated.

3. (currently amended): The data processing method according to claim 1, wherein the requested data is generated by execution of a predetermined process, and said prediction step ~~predicts~~ includes predicting the end time based on a time required for executing the predetermined process.

4. (cancelled).

5. (previously presented): A data processing system comprising a server and a client, and in which said server provides data to said client via a network, wherein said server comprises :

first reception means for receiving a request for data loading from said client;

completion discrimination means for discriminating, in response to the request for data loading, whether a generation of requested data has completed or is in progress;

first transmission means for transmitting to said client the requested data if the generation thereof has completed;

a prediction means for predicting an end time of the generation of the requested data if the generation thereof is in progress; and

second transmission means for transmitting the predicted end time and information for requesting data loading again at the predicted end time to said client if the generation of the requested data is in progress,

and wherein said client comprises:

issuing means for issuing the request for data loading to the server in response to an instruction by a user;

second reception means for receiving from the server either requested data or the predicted end time together with information for re-issuing the request for data loading at the predicted end time; and

control means for, in a case where a received data includes the information for re-issuing the request for data loading at the predicted end time, controlling said issuing means as to re-issue the request for data loading from said client to the server without a further instruction by the user when the predicted end time is reached.

6. (previously presented): The data processing system according to claim 5, wherein said prediction means predicts the end time based on an amount of data to be generated.

7. (previously presented): The data processing system according to claim 5, wherein the requested data is generated by execution of a predetermined process, and said prediction means predicts the end time based on a time required for executing the predetermined process.

8. - 10. (cancelled).

NY\_MAIN 604796v1